

Inauguration of the art exhibition *Global Peace and Bangladesh* by the imminent painter **Francisca Blázquez** at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid

on 24 October 2022 at 1100 hours, coinciding with the United Nations Day

I paint peace because it is the true reality that upholds harmony and love, keeps the world moving, and gives meaning to the life of each one of us.

Bangladesh is a country of profound beauty and endless prospects. The country suffered greatly in its process of independence. Three million freedom loving people sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War of 1971. Since then, the country, known as a proponent of global peace, has accomplished a great deal, overcoming all obstacles. Its people are enterprising, creative, determined and hard-working. And above all, they are lovers of peace, because, in peace rests the future of humanity.

It is an honor for me to hold, in collaboration with the Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid, this series of exhibitions of artworks that stand for world peace, freedom and fraternity. I have the honour to dedicate this exhibition to the immortal legacy of the Founding Father and Architect of the independent Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, upon whose clarion call, the nation rushed to the battlefield to liberate the country from oppression and subjugation. Bangabandhu's worldview emanated from his lifelong struggle for justice and equality, for universal political, economic and cultural rights, and for the right to self-determination. In his speech delivered at the United Nations in 1974 after Bangladesh's entry as a member-state, he asserted: *"The Bengali nation is dedicated to building a world order that would reflect the aspirations of all people for peace and justice."*

We all want peace, because, everything that exists in its most subtle state is peace. The universe is peace. Peace is a perfect state, in which we were all born. Yet, we have to tread a long way to unfold its infinite serenity and strength. Peace is the authentic truth of existence in the effective sense of the term. Peace is the inner soul of everything that exists. There is peace, when everything is perfect. Perfection is peace because it is the absolute harmony. In reality, peace has always existed. And it will always continue to exist. In the subtle dimensions, everything is peace. The ego leads to conflict when it seeks to exercise undue power. We are like beams of light, beams of divine energy. We must move forward with the determination stemming from the inner self to advance peace in the world. We must shun the pursuit of war. And for this reason, I constantly paint peace in my artworks to convey the universal message of peace to everyone around the world.

I am currently preparing several events in other embassies and places of global importance, in addition to the present exhibition at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid.

Peace is the force that we all carry within.



Francisca Blázquez

